

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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ACTION EUR-03

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9382

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 5357

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FOR GARRISON FROM MATLOCK

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: OGEN

SUBJ: OFFICIAL-INFORMAL

1. CABLE ON MFA OFFER TO SHOW PROPERTY IN KIEV WAS
MOSCOW 5164. WE PLAN SEND TEAM APRIL 21--THE DATE
SUGGESTED.

2. THOUGH WE WILL REFRAIN FROM FURTHER FORMAL COMMENT, I
MUST SAY IN ALL CANDOR THAT WE ARE UNABLE TO COMPREHEND
THE RATIONALE FOR GIVING WAY ON MOLDAVIA AT THIS TIME.
HOLDING OUT ON THIS ISSUE, IN OUR VIEW, IN NO WAY
LESSENS PRESSURE ON SOVIETS RE PROPERTIES. NOR DO WE
CONSIDER MOLDAVIAN ISSUE, ADMITTEDLY SECONDARY, DEVOID OF
REAL SIGNIFICANCE. OUR UNDERSTANDING IS THAT ONE PRINCIPAL
LONG-TERM JUSTIFICATION FOR A NETWORK OF CONSULATES IS TO
GIVE US BETTER ACCESS TO AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE MINORITY
NATIONALITIES, WHICH WE STILL SEE AS POTENTIALLY A MATTER
OF THE UTMOST POLITICAL SIGNIFICANCE, DESPITE THE FACT
THAT WE HAVENOT BEEN IN POSITION TO REPORT ON IT
ADEQUATELY IN THE PAST. RECENT EXPERIENCE HERE AND ON
PART LENINGRAD DEMONSTRATES VALUE OF FORMAL ACCREDITATION
IN SECURING APPOINTMENTS. OMITTING MOLDAVIA FROM DISCRIT
WILL GREATLY UNDERMINE POTENTIAL ABILITY OF KIEV TO REPORT
ON THIS AREA AND EMBASSY, PRACTICALLY SPEAKING, WILL NEVER
HAVE THE MANPOWER TO DO IT. THEREFORE, WE ARE IN EFFECT
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OPTING OUT OF A SIGNIFICANT REPORTING OBJECTIVE. WE CAN

OBVIOUSLY LIVE WITH THIS SITUATION IF WE HAVE TO, BUT WE HONESTLY SEE NO REASON WHATSOEVER TO YIELD WITHOUT A REAL TRY, NOR CAN WE PERCEIVE HOW YIELDING AT THIS TIME FACILITATES SECURING THE SORT OF PROPERTIES WE DESIRE. THE EFFECT COULD BE QUITE THE OPPOSITE--IF WE WILL SETTLE FOR LESS THAN WE CLEARLY DESIRE, AND INDEED CAN RATIONALLY EXPECT, ON DISTRICTS, THIS COULD LEAD TO CONCLUSION THAT WE ARE SO EAGER TO OPEN KIEV THAT OUR BASIC REQUIREMENTS FOR PROPERTIES NEED NOT BE MET.

3. IT IS SO RARE TO FIND OUR ANALYSIS OUT OF TUNE WITH SOV'S THAT WE WONDER IF THERE ARE FACTORS LEADING TO YOUR JUDGMENT OF WHICH WE HAVE NOT BEEN APPRISED.

4. RE LAST SENTENCE PARA 3 MOSCOW 5083, WE INTERPRET STATEMENT AS INDICATION OF SOVIET DETERMINATION THAT GENEVA SUCCEED IF IT IS CONVENED AGAIN. DO YOU HAVE ANYTHING ON ISRAELI-SOVIET CONTACTS? WE HAVE BEEN ABLE TO DEVELOP NOTHING CONCRETE HERE, BUT ISRAELI PRESS REPORT HAS RING OF PLAUSIBILITY.

5. WE DON'T HAVE MUCH TO ADD TO WHAT WE HAVE ALREADY SAID ON POST-VIETNAM POLICIES, BUT I HAVE ASKED POL TO PUT TOGETHER SUCH THOUGHTS AS WE HAVE, AND HOPE TO GET SOMETHING OUT IN A COUPLE OF DAYS.
STOESSEL

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